

**Libya Domestic Media Monitoring Report
Covering August 9 – August 15
By Richard Hinton
MIGS media monitor for Libya**

Contents

- State media report 85 dead after NATO bombing
- Licenses imposed for cell phone holders
- Civilians and volunteers allegedly chasing rebels from towns
- Opposition media report series of rebel successes near Tripoli
- Publication of new constitution
- Claims that regime ordered killing of NTC members
- Civilians encouraged to take revenge, form councils
- Reported defection of ministers of Interior and Transport
- Other media report concerns over reported victims of NATO strike, Amnesty International calls for investigation
- 2000 refugees flee Libya for Italy, some claim forced deportation

State Media

9 August 2011

Source: Al-Jamahiryah TV

A news broadcast on the station reported that a NATO bombardment had struck civilians in the Zlitan area. The victims included women and children according to video footage.

Source: State news agency

The number of deaths in the NATO bombing raid (see above) was said to have reached 85.

14 August 2011

Source: JANA report

The report stated that due to the fact that Al-Thuraya phones (a telecommunications company) are allegedly being used by rebels to inform NATO of target coordinates, it is now obligatory for those using the phones to have licenses to ensure that citizens not use their phones in aid of the enemy, and that any violation of this law could result in hanging.

14 August 2011

Source: Al-Jamahiriyah and Al-Libiyah TV

The channels reported that government forces had been victorious over the “rats” in Al-Zawiyah, a report which contradicts what opposition media has been reporting.

Interviews with residents, soldiers and families of Al-Zawiyah (near Tripoli) were shown in which the respondents stated that the “rats” had been chased from the town, and calling the contradicting reports from non-state media “lies.”

Another report claimed that “criminal groups” near Al-Gawasim in Ghiryan had been terminated by volunteers, armed people from the tribes and the people, who as Libyans had no mercy for these rebels.

Opposition/Non-State Media

12 August 2011

Source: Libya TV

The station carried a report that rebels were in control of three quarters of Al-Burayqah.

There was also news that the National Transitional Council was publishing its 37-point constitution.

And finally allegations that there was evidence that Qadhafi`s regime had ordered the killing of National Transitional Council members.

14 August 2011

Source: Libya TV

The channel encouraged its audience to remember the martyrs and take revenge. It carried a message from the National Transitional Council urging people to form local councils in areas not yet reached by the rebels, and ensure the security of public property.

15 August 2011

Source: Libya TV

The program, Libya Today alleged that the minister of the interior, Nasar al-Mabrook had defected.

Other news turned to the news that Tiji had been liberated after months of government control. It was also reported that the town would be a waypoint on the rebels' push toward Tripoli, while rebels are also reaching their objectives of Al-Zawiyah and Sirte.

Source: Al-Quryna newspaper

The paper reported rebel success in Al-Burayqah, Surman and Tawurgah. Another minister, Muhammad Zaydan (transport), was also said to have defected from Qadhafi's government.

External and Other Media

10 August 2011

Source: Amnesty International

The agency is urging NATO to pay special attention in its bombing campaigns in Libya after reports that civilians had been hit by NATO raids. The reports, originating from members of the regime were partially confirmed by independent journalists visiting the region where the bombing had occurred.

16 August 2011

Source: UN High Commissioner for Refugees (on allafrica.com)

Around 2000 refugees fleeing Libya arrived over the weekend of the 13th and 15th of August on the Italian island of Lampedusa. Some claim that they left when they lost their work in the country, while others say they had been rounded up and forced to leave.